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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/127,112	07/31/1998	BRIAN I MARCUS	005	9729
28554	7590	02/24/2006	EXAMINER	
VIERRA MAGEN MARCUS & DENIRO LLP 575 MARKET STREET SUITE 2500 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105			HARRIS, CHANDA L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3715	

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/127,112	MARCUS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Chanda L. Harris	3715	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Chanda L. Harris. (3) _____.

(2) Brian Marcus. (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 17 February 2006.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: All.

Identification of prior art discussed: Yasuhara (US 5,670,992).


Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: We discussed Applicant's draft response that Examiner believes is persuasive and overcomes the rejection under Yasuhara. Applicant will respond in due course to the last office action.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

VIERRA MAGEN MARCUS HARMON & DENIRO LLP

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	Examiner Chandra Harris	FROM:	Brian I. Marcus, Esq.
COMPANY:	U.S. Patent & Trademark Office	DATE:	2/14/2006
FAX NUMBER:	571-273-4448	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	11
PHONE NUMBER:		SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:	
RE:	Draft Amendment	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:	U.S. Serial No. 10/127,112

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NOTES/COMMENTS:

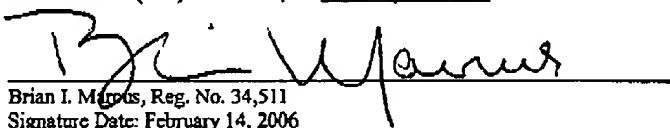
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application)	<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u>
Inventors: Brian I. Marcus et al.)	Art Unit: 3714
Application No.: 09/127,112)	Examiner: Harris, C.
Filed Date: July 31, 1998)	Customer No.: 28554
Title: OBJECT RECOGNITION SYSTEM)	

DRAFT**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commissioner of Patents, facsimile no. (571) 273-4448, on February 14, 2006.


Brian I. Marcus, Reg. No. 34,511
Signature Date: February 14, 2006

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir or Madam:

This Response is in reply to the Office Action mailed February 8, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and consideration of the following remarks:

Amendment to the Specification begins at page 2 of this Amendment.

Amendment to the Claims, including the cancellation and addition of claims, begins at page 3 of this Amendment.

Remarks appear on page 8 of this Amendment.

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, starting at line 3, as follows:

There has been one segment of the population that has largely been excluded from the computer revolution, the young child. This is true primarily for two reasons. First, young children have not yet developed the ~~metal~~ mental capabilities or the motor skills to interact well with conventional computers, which require data to be entered, for example via the key board or mouse, in a fixed format. Secondly, young children are interested and entertained by simple sensory input, and the vast resources offered by conventional computers are generally too advanced to be of interest to them.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-83 (canceled)

84. (Previously Presented) An interactive activity system for a user comprising:

a first electronic display screen displaying a visual graphical environment for the user, the graphical environment presenting the user with one or more visual prompts, said prompts assisting to prompt the user to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects;

a support structure, said support structure having a work space including a contact-sensitive second electronic display screen, said contact-sensitive electronic display screen being separate from the first electronic display screen and capable of receiving input from the user through the detection of the location of one or more graspable objects placed on the work space and the path of one or more graspable objects manipulated laterally across the work space, said support structure also having a button not associated with a keyboard or numeric keypad with which the user can make entries into the system;

one or more detectors associated with a the contact-sensitive nature of the work space, the detectors being capable of generating information corresponding to the location of the one or more graspable objects placed on the work space and the path of the one or more graspable objects manipulated laterally across the work space by detecting a mechanical downward force generated by the user's placement or manipulation of the one or more graspable objects on the work space; and

a processor capable of generating graphical images on at least one of the first and second display screens, recognizing actuation of the button by the user, receiving information corresponding to the location of the one or more graspable objects placed on the work space and the path of the one or more graspable objects manipulated laterally across the work space and generating feedback to the user.

85. Cancelled.

86. (Currently Amended) A system as recited in claim 85, further comprising an audio output device capable of providing one or more audio prompts assisting to prompt the user to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects.

87. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 86, wherein the audio output device is further capable of providing audio feedback to the user depending on the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space.

88. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 84, further comprising a loadable memory.

89. Cancelled.

90. Cancelled.

91. Cancelled.

92. Cancelled.

93. (Previously Presented) An interactive activity system for a user comprising:

a first electronic display screen displaying a visual graphical environment for the user, the graphical environment presenting the user with one or more visual prompts, said prompts assisting to prompt the child to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects;

a support structure, said support structure having a work space including a contact-sensitive second electronic display screen, said contact-sensitive electronic display screen being separate from the first electronic display screen and capable of receiving input from the user through the detection of the location of one or more graspable objects placed on the work space and the path of one or more graspable objects manipulated laterally across the work space, said support structure also having a button not associated with a keyboard or numeric keypad with which the user can make entries into the system;

one or more detectors associated with the contact-sensitive nature of the work space, the detectors being capable of generating information corresponding to the location of the one or more graspable objects placed on the work space and the path of the one or more graspable objects manipulated laterally across the work space; and

a processor capable of generating graphical images on at least one of the first and second electronic display screens, recognizing actuation of the button, receiving information corresponding to the location of the one or more graspable objects placed on the work space and the path of the one or more graspable objects manipulated laterally across the work space and generating feedback to the user.

94. Cancelled.

95. (Currently Amended) A system as recited in claim 94, further comprising an audio output device capable of providing one or more audio prompts assisting to prompt the user to cognitively react by manipulating one or more graspable objects.

96. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 95, wherein the audio output device is further capable of providing audio feedback to the user depending on the location of the one or more graspable objects placed or manipulated on the work space.

97. (Previously Presented) A system as recited in claim 93, further comprising a loadable memory.

98. Cancelled.

99. Cancelled.

100. Cancelled.

101. Cancelled.

102. Cancelled.

103. Cancelled.

104. Cancelled.

105. Cancelled.

106. Cancelled.

107. Cancelled.

108. Cancelled.

109. Cancelled.

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tinker/112/Response to 2-8-06 Office Action

REMARKS

The above amendments and these remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed February 8, 2006. Claims 84, 86-88, 91 and 95-97 are presented herewith for consideration.

Objection to the Specification:

The specification was objected to as including an informality. This informality has been corrected.

Objection to the Claims:

Claims 86 and 95 [*sic*] have been objected to as including informalities. These informalities have been corrected.

Rejection of Claims 84, 86-88, 91 and 95-97 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 84, 86-88, 91 and 95-97 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,670,992 to Yasuhara ("Yasuhara"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection as follows.

Each of Claims 84, 86-88, 91 and 95-97 recite in pertinent part:

a first electronic display screen ...

and

a support structure, said support structure having a work space including a contact-sensitive second electronic display screen, said contact-sensitive electronic display screen being separate from the first electronic display screen.

Addressing the second recited element above, the Examiner asserts that Yasuhara discloses "a support structure, said support having a work space (i.e., tablet) including a contact-sensitive second electronic display screen." Applicants respectfully disagree.

The tablet 10 of Yasuhara is not an electronic display screen as required by each of the claims. Tablet 10 of Yasuhara is incapable of electronically displaying anything. It cannot electronically display graphical images. To the contrary, tablet 10 is a "coordinate input surface" (col. 3, lines 21-22). A user draws or sketches an image on the tablet using an associated pen, which image is sensed by the pressure sensitive sensing apparatus. The tablet 10 does not display the image. Instead, the image is transferred to the separate video display 2.

At col. 3, lines 28-42, Yasuhara makes clear that the tablet 10 merely functions as a coordinate input surface and does not electronically display any images. The separate video display monitor 2 displays the images generated by tablet 10:

When the user draws a locus by slightly touching the tablet 10 with the attachment pan 11 or with the fingertip while pushing the executing button 8A or 8b, a pen-shaped cursor 21 is displayed on a picture screen 2a of the monitor 2 and the cursor 21 moves in tandem with the locus of the fingertip or the like to display the locus as an image . . .

The Examiner's mistaken reading of Yasuhara may have derived from Figures 6A, 6B, or 7 of Yasuhara. These figures however do not show images displayed on tablet 10. Instead, Figures 6A, 6B and 7 of Yasuhara show images displayed on the video display 2:

"If the user depresses the eraser button 18 in the menu selecting area 10c and slightly touches the picture-making areas 10b with the accessory pen 11 or the like, an eraser-shaped cursor 21a is displayed in the background of the previously drawn on the picture on the picture screen 2a of the monitor 2 as shown in FIG. 6a . . ."

Col. 8, lines 17-22 (emphasis added). See also col. 8, lines 25-28 and lines 29-41 for similar disclosures for Yasuhara FIG's 6B and 7. Thus, FIGs. 6A, 6B and 7 of Yasuhara do not support tablet 10 operating as an electronic display screen.

As the feature of a second electronic display screen, separate from the first electronic display screen, is expressly called for in the claims and is nowhere disclosed, taught or suggested in Yasuhara, it is respectfully requested that the rejection on these grounds be withdrawn.

Based on the above, reconsideration of Claims 84, 86-88, 91 and 95-97 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should further questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501826 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 14, 2006

By: 

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